

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179411
ORIGIN NEA-10

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NSC-05 /042 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP:LLC
APPROVED BY NEA:HHSAUDERS
-----045375 151806Z /73

R 150850Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS

1. FOLLOWING LONDON CONFERENCE SAUNDERS EXPECTS TO MAKE BRIEF VISITS TO ALGIERS AND MOROCCO FOR MEETINGS WHICH WILL INCLUDE BOUMEDIENE AND HASSAN. DEPARTMENT TRYING TO KEEP PUBLICITY TO A MINIMUM AND PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE ONLY ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS.

2. IF QUERIED BY HOST GOVERNMENT REGARDING ABOUT TRIP AND ITS PURPOSE, YOU SHOULD RESPOND THAT IS FOR ORIENTATION, AS THIS IS SAUNDERS' FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT NORTH AFRICA SINCE BEING NAMED TO HIS PRESENT POSITION. TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO COVER BOTH BILATERAL ISSUES AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

3. FOR TUNIS: RECOGNIZE TUNISIANS WILL BE DISAPPOINTED THAT TUNIS NOT INCLUDED IN SAUNDERS' ITINERARY. PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT COMMITMENTS IN WASHINGTON UNFORTUNATELY MADE

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IT IMPOSSIBLE TO EXTEND TRIP TO TUNIS BUT THAT SAUNDERS HOPES TO BE ABLE TO VISIT TUNISIA ON A FUTURE TRIP TO THE REGION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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